



Become a Mentor

One hour per week

Send a child to college!

Take Stock in Children of Miami-Dade County
Miami-Dade College
Wolfson Campus
300 NE Second Avenue Miami, FL 33132, Room: 3116
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Take Stock in Children

Mentor Fact Sheet

What is *Take Stock in Children*?

Take Stock in Children is a non-profit program, which provides deserving low-income children in our community with caring adult mentors, advocacy/case management, wraparound services, scholarships to college or accredited vocational-technical schools and hope for the future. Since 1995, ***Take Stock in Children*** has enrolled over 10,000 children, of whom 96% of them have remained committed to the program. ***Take Stock - changing children's lives —one child at a time.***

Take Stock students sign a contract with their parents' support pledging to:

- **Stay in school**
- **Maintain good grades**
- **Remain drug free**
- **Exhibit good behavior**
- **Not commit any act of crime or violence**
- **Meet with a mentor.**

Why Mentor?

Mentoring helps students succeed, achieve, and graduate from school. The role of a mentor is to provide a listening ear, valuable guidance, and academic assistance to help students experience greater success. Your guidance can help build a foundation of basic values and challenge students to take responsibility for their own actions. They can start to set goals and understand the importance of staying in school. As students begin to realize that someone cares, school absenteeism decreases, academic performance improves, and self-esteem increases.

By building their sense of self worth and demonstrating that someone cares, students will have a better chance of staying in school and playing a productive role in the community. As a successful person in the community, you will be able to share your experiences with a student and open a new world of possibilities to him/her.

Who Can Be A Mentor?

Any responsible adult who is willing and able to share time with a student on a consistent basis can be a mentor. The mentor will show students that someone cares about them and wants them to stay in school. Mentors will become friends and role models to students who may not otherwise have an adult in their lives to guide and direct their actions and choices. A mentor's guidance will greatly contribute to their success.

What Does A Mentor Do?

A mentor makes a commitment to a student to meet with him/her for one hour each week. A mentor provides the student with dependable, genuine, and consistent attention. Mentors encourage students to attend school daily, earn good grades, and pursue their goals. Mentors can help students with their homework, class work, or just provide them with a listening ear and caring words of praise or encouragement.

Where Do I Mentor?

Mentoring sessions take place only on school grounds and during school hours. Your mentoring session can be held in the library, cafeteria, or other available places around the school. A schedule is arranged between you and your mentee on which day and time you will meet.

How Does A Mentor Know What to Do?

After an initial orientation and training session, you will meet your student/mentee at his/her school. A mentor handbook will be provided with helpful information tips, and activities to guide you in the mentoring process. Your Mentor Coordinator is available for questions and guidance.

How Does A Mentor Benefit?

There is an opportunity for personal growth, developing new skills, and making new friends of all ages. The satisfaction of helping children learn and grow with self-confidence, recognition for contributing to the community, achieving a higher productivity and creativity at work are additional benefits.

What Is Team Mentoring?

Although *Take Stock in Children* would prefer one mentor per student, we recognize the hectic schedule of highly effective people and will pair up mentors with each other. Team mentoring (two mentors per student) assures students the probability that their mentors will meet with them each week.

How Can I Become A Mentor?

When you have decided to make that serious commitment to work with a *Take Stock* student, you will complete a *Take Stock in Children* Mentor application. After your application has been reviewed and your background check completed, you will then be matched with a student who will benefit from your guidance and caring relationship.

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